

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 8-12, 17, 18 and 21-25 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 10, 21 and 23 are amended solely for clarity. Additional support for the amendments to the independent claims can be found at least in Figs. 5-7. Thus, no new matter is added.

I. August 24 Personal Interview and September 2 and 15 Telephone Conferences

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives by Examiners Park and Le during the August 24, 2010 personal interview, and by Examiner Park during the September 2 and 15 telephone conferences. Applicants' separate record of the results of the interviews are incorporated into the remarks below.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 3, 9, 12, 18, 22 and 24 are allowed, and that claims 2 and 11 contain allowable subject matter. For at least the reasons discussed below, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in condition for allowance.

III. 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 8, 10, 17, 21, 23 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,831,659 to Mukoyama et al. (hereinafter "Mukoyama") in view of Bothcy (C Magazine; "Speed-up Techniques and Thinking Routine for 3D Games Found Source Code of a 3D game 'Doom'") and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0207704 to Takahashi et al. (hereinafter "Takahashi"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed during the August 24 interview, and as agreed to during the September 15 conference, the applied references taken alone or in any combination, fail to disclose and would not have rendered obvious "a central part object included in the model object stands along a vertical central axis, and the rest of the part objects are positioned apart from the

central axis of the central part object, the central axis extending through a center of the central part object," and "rotating each of the part objects about the central axis, with a processor, based on rotational information of the virtual camera so that the display surface of each of the part objects is directed toward the virtual camera when the virtual camera orbitally rotates about the central axis while being directed towards a central part object," as recited in independent claim 1.

The Office Action relies on Mukoyama as disclosing the rotation of part objects. However, Mukoyama discloses in Figs. 15 and 16 that each of its part objects are stationarily positioned about Mukoyama's central object T. The part objects then rotate about each of their individual X-, Y- and Z-axes that pass through its stationary location. However, Mukoyama's part objects do not rotate orbitally about Mukoyama's central object T. In particular, one of ordinary skill in the art would readily recognize that "rotating orbitally about the central axis," means that the part objects rotate circularly around the central object. However, as shown in Figs. 15 and 16 of Mukoyama, the part objects do not rotate around the tree trunk T, but rather merely rotate about each of their individual stationary positions in a non-orbital manner. Therefore, Mukoyama fails to disclose the above-quoted features of independent claim 1. The remaining references fail to at least cure this deficiency of Mukoyama.

For at least the above reasons, the applied references also fail to disclose and would not have rendered obvious "a central part object included in the model object stands along a vertical central axis, and the rest of the part objects are positioned apart from the central axis of the central part object, the central axis extending through a center of the central part object," and "rotating each of the part objects orbitally about the central axis based on rotational information of the virtual camera so that the display surface of each of the part objects is directed toward the virtual camera when the virtual camera orbitally rotates about

the central axis while being directed toward the central part object," as recited in independent claim 10.

For at least the above reasons, the applied references also fail to disclose and would not have rendered obvious "rotating, with a processor, each of the part objects orbitally about an X-axis, which passes orthogonally through the central axis and extends in a direction orthogonal to a direction of sight line from the virtual camera, based on rotational information of the virtual camera so that the display surface of each of the part objects is directed toward the virtual camera when the virtual camera orbitally rotates about the X-axis while being directed toward the central part object," as recited in independent claim 21 and also fails to disclose and would not have rendered obvious "rotating each of the part objects orbitally about an X-axis, which passes orthogonally through the central axis and extends in a direction orthogonal to a direction of sight line from the virtual camera, based on rotational information of the virtual camera so that the display surface of each of the part objects is directed toward the virtual camera when the virtual camera orbitally rotates about the X-axis while being directed toward the central part object," as recited in independent claim 23.

Similar to the above discussion, claims 21 and 23 recite an X-axis that passes orthogonally through the central axis, and further recite that the part objects rotate orbitally about that X-axis. Mukoyama fails to disclose this feature because, as shown in Figs. 15 and 16 of Mukoyama, the X-axes of its part objects are not positioned so as to pass orthogonally through the central axis. Further, each of the part objects are capable of rotating on their individual X-axes, but are incapable of rotating orbitally about those X-axes. Consequently, Mukoyama fails to disclose the above-quoted features. The remaining references fail to at least cure the deficiency of Mukoyama.

For at least the above reasons, independent claims 1, 10, 21 and 23 are patentable over the applied references. Claims 8, 17 and 25 are patentable at least for their dependencies from the independent claims, as well as for the additional features they recite.

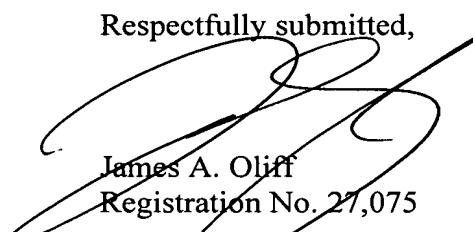
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

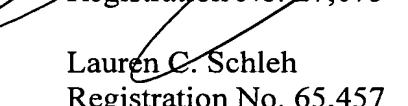
IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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JAO:LCS/rle

Attachment:

Petition for Extension of Time

Date: September 17, 2010

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